

VA Palo Alto Health Care System

All applicants receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, non-disqualifying mental or physical disability, age (with authorized exceptions), sex, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.

DUTIES: Incumbent performs radiologic examinations of head, trunk and extremities of a person; performs tomograms, myelograms, operative femoral arteriograms, venograms, sialograms and other radiographic procedures; prepares supplies, equipment, film, room and other necessary items; prepares and administers contrast material orally, by enema or by other means under close supervision of radiologist; monitors vital signs and notifies radiologist of significant changes; processes exposed radiographies, prepares film processing chemicals for film processors, recovers processing solutions; loads numerous types of film holders with proper film; operates automatic film loaders and processors; performs and calibrates processor monitoring system; maintains records of patients examined; and schedules patients and dispenses appropriate prep kits. Performs full range of radiographic studies, operating a fully digital x-ray system and operates highly technical digital and computerized radiographic equipment. Retrieves and sends images via the Stentor system. Performs Quality Control and Quality Assurance test on computer, digital equipment including phantom testing and fluoroscopy checks. Performs procedures such as video fluoroscopic swallowing studies in conjunction with the speech Pathology Service, works as a team member with radiologist in procedures such as cholecystograms, urethrograms, arthorograms, upper GI series, sets up the x-ray room. Ensure that sterile supplies, local anesthetics, contrast materials, catheters, and other equipment are present and readily available for the radiologist. Provides technical training to lower grade technologist who may be assigned to the department.

A. All applicants must be certified as a Diagnostic Radiologic Technologist by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).

B. Public Law 97-35 requires that persons who administer radiologic procedures meet the credentialing standards in 42 CFR Part 75. Essentially, they must: (1) have successfully completed an educational program that meets or exceeds the standards described in that regulation, and is accredited by an organization recognized by the Department of Education; and (2) be certified as radiographers in their field. The following meets these requirements: (1) Persons employed by the Federal Government as radiologic personnel prior to the effective date of the regulation (January 13, 1986) who show evidence of current or fully satisfactory performance or certification of such from a licensed practitioner such as a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic who prescribes radiologic procedures to others; or (2) Persons first employed by the Federal Government as radiologic personnel after the effective date of the regulation who: (a) received training from institutions in a State or foreign jurisdiction that did not accredit training in that particular field at the time of graduation, or (b) practiced in a State or foreign jurisdiction that did not license that particular field or did not allow special eligibility to take a licensure examination for those who did not graduate from an accredited educational program, provided that such persons show evidence of training, experience, and competence as determined by OPM or the employing agency.

C. In addition, applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the next lower grade level) in the operation of diagnostic radiology equipment under the direction of radiologists or other medical officers to produce radiographic studies used in medical diagnosis and treatment.

SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION:

GS-7: Successful completion of a full-time training course of at least 24 months' of graduate education meets the requirements. Successful completion of a course for medical radiologic technicians in the Armed Forces is qualifying on a month-to-month basis up to one year of specialized experience required for GS-7.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: Appropriate credit will be given for voluntary participation in community, social service, and similar activities.

BASIS OF RATING: Your rating will be based on the quality of your experience as shown in your application and elements. Listed below are the knowledge, skills and abilities considered essential for successful performance in this position. These elements will be used to determine the highly qualified candidates to be referred to the selecting official. Provide, on a separate sheet of paper, a DETAILED description of your experience as related to the knowledge, skills and abilities listed below. Incomplete, vague, or contradictory information may affect your rating.

1. ABILITY to perform diagnostic examinations.
2. ABILITY to perform fluoroscopic and spot film examinations using contrast media.
3. ABILITY to perform darkroom operations.
4. ABILITY to communicate orally.

NOTES:

1. If selected at the GS-5 level, noncompetitive promotion to the GS-6 level may be effected when incumbent meets regulatory requirements for promotion and demonstrates ability to perform the full scope of the duties of the position under normal supervision.
2. This is a testing designated position (TDP). An applicant who is tentatively selected will be subject to random drug testing if their number appears as a match. The term 'applicant' includes current employees of the VA Palo Alto Health Care System or any individual in VA who has tentatively been identified for placement in a TDP and who has not immediately prior to placement, been subject to random testing. Also included are individuals serving on a temporary appointment who have applied for and been tentatively selected for conversion to a permanent appointment in a TDP.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

- ◇ Additional Vacancies: This announcement may be used to fill additional vacancies occurring within 90 days.
- ◇ U.S. Citizenship: If applicable, non-citizens may be appointed when no citizens are available in accordance with regulations issued by the Under Secretary for Health.
- ◇ Update Of Qualifications: VAPAHCS employees should ensure their official personnel folder (OPF) contains complete information about their qualifications for this position *by the closing date of this announcement*.
- ◇ Promotion Potential: If applicable, the candidate may be non-competitively promoted up to the full performance level without further competition provided they demonstrate satisfactory performance, meet applicable administrative requirements, and there is sufficient work at the higher grade level.
- ◇ Time-In-Grade Requirement: Candidates for advancement to General Schedule (GS) positions in the competitive service must have completed a minimum of 52 weeks at the next lower grade level (or equivalent) commensurate with the line of progression for this position.
- ◇ English Language Proficiency: If applicable, individuals appointed to direct patient care positions must be proficient in spoken and written English as required by Title 38, United States Code (38 U.S.C.).
- ◇ TB Skin Screen Test: All applicants selected for employment with the VAPAHCS will be required to meet TB screening requirements before being placed into this position.
- ◇ Physical / Medical Standards: If applicable, candidates will be required to pass a physical examination.
- ◇ Drug Testing Position: All applicants tentatively selected for VA employment in a testing designated position are subject to random drug screen (urinalysis) for illegal drug use prior to appointment. Applicants who refuse to be tested will be denied employment with the VA.

- ◇ Direct Deposit / Electronic Funds Transfer: It is a policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs to require new employees to receive Federal wage and salary payment through Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer. On the first day of duty, new employees must bring their Social Security Card/Number, photographic identification card, and information regarding their financial institution.

HOW TO APPLY:

Eligible Permanent Employees of VAPAHCS - Submit VA Form 5-4078, Application for Promotion or Reassignment, by the closing date of this announcement.

To receive consideration, all application materials must be postmarked or received in this office by the closing date. Any information not submitted with your original application will not be considered. Failure to submit the requested material and response to the rating factors may result in a lower rating in the evaluation process.

All application materials will become the property of the Human Resources Management Service and will not be returned, used for other positions, or duplicated once submitted.

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. 1719, use of postage-paid government agency envelopes to file job applications is a violation of Federal law and regulation. Applications mailed in postage-paid government envelopes, sent by Federal agency special courier services or submitted through Federal fax machines will not be considered.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

Human Resources Management Service (05A)
VA Palo Alto Health Care System
3801 Miranda Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304